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Fatherless Romances: The Proposal

Marriage is not the only way to have or raise a family. Whether by choice or circumstance, many people tread the path of single parenthood. In fact, many women today choose to raise their child/children as single mothers (Erera 420). By dismissing a factor (a parent) in the equation of a family, one may be inclined to assume that the child of a single parent is, in general, missing a valuable portion of self-development, most often acquired through the observation of parent-to-child interaction. More specifically, girls and women may make choices and behave in a particular manner to supplement the absence of a father. The “absence of a father” is viewed as the result of divorce, death, abandonment or a father who is emotionally detached (Garrett-Akinsanya 10). A worthy area of study, I believe, is the effect of fatherlessness on the mentality, and relational and sexual endeavors of girls and young women.

The growth and development of one’s personality is dependent upon the seed from which it sprouts. A thought begins with inspiration from one’s personality, whose worthiness is to be judged by their mentality, thus resulting in a person’s verdict of execution. To better understand a person’s actions, one must find the psychological reasoning behind such decisions, beginning with one’s state of emotions. Statistics show that girls are more likely to become sexually active, and reap the consequences of sexual activity at a younger age of whom are deprived a father figure (Garrett-Akinsanya 8). My goal is to understand these girls’ reasoning behind their hastened promiscuity by analyzing the general population’s self-concept and worth. Answering these questions will provide insight into the relationships – dating and platonic – fatherless women enter into.

Growing up, I remember feeling insecure and irrelevant, causing me to limit my input, even on issues that could have potentially put me in harm’s way. Looking back, I realize that I had copied a great many of my mother’s timid behaviors. I believe that adding the “father factor” to my own equation would have increased my inclination to make my voice known in my surroundings, in turn, affecting my behaviors. Through the studies of other girls with similar, fatherless backgrounds, I hope to realize what related events shaped my personality, thoughts and behavior.

Though my interest in fatherless women is spurred by a personal agenda, the issue itself is vastly overlooked (Garrett-Akinsanya 6). With the increase of single mothers, the lack of a father in a young girl’s life also increases. “Fatherless children” is an issue relevant to today’s changing definition of family and cultural norms. The chances that the audience will not run into a victim of fatherlessness are slim, and the appeal of the comprehension of the female mind can be an enticing subject matter. Single male audience members may draw interest in this topic to either help the fatherless young woman see worth in herself, or simply to take advantage of her; a mother’s desire for the ultimate success and wellbeing of her child never wanes; the fatherless woman will draw on her own experiences, making connections in casting of her personality; and the missing father will find that, though absent in body and/or spirit, he continues to have an effect on his daughter. Though this understanding will not bring an end to a cyclical fatherless trend, it has the potential to allow a fatherless woman to understand some of her emotional desires that long to be fulfilled through a relationship with a man.

Works Cited

Erera, Pauline Irit. “What Is a Family?” *Family Diversity: Continuity and Change in the Contemporary Family* (2002): 1-15*.* Rpt. In *Writing in the Disciplines: A Reader and Rhetoric for Academic Writers,* 6th Ed. Mary Lynch Kennedy and William J. Kennedy. Boston: Pearson 2009. 416-426. Print.

Garrett-Akinsanya, B. PhD, (2011, Nov 03). *Growing Up Without a Father: The Impact on Girls and Women*. Retrieved from http://www.insightnews.com/health/8148-growing-up-without-a-father-the-impact-on-girls-and-women.

Em-J,

Nice topic, the passion you bring with this proposal makes me excited for your paper. I didn’t see any obvious issues with your paper. There are a few words I would change and that is about it. Good job and look forward to reading your paper!

Gooch